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REFERENCE

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- 25X1 1. In late August 1952, [redacted] the official designation and address of the headquarters handling the affairs of the Air Division within the Peoples Police was the Ministry of the Interior of the German Democratic Republic, VP-Luft. Grosserliner Damm in Berlin-Johannisthal. (1) Inspector General of VP Luft Heinz Kessler was in charge of this office. Inspector Schroeder (fnu) headed the training department. VP Oberrat Leinrich Reithmueller was chief of staff. VP Oberrat Rothe (fnu) was chief of the political section. Commander Trenkmann (fnu) was in charge of the central supply depot. Commander Barthel (fnu) headed the cadre personnel section.
2. The anteroom of the inspector general's office was staffed by VP Leister Zahn (fnu) and a female VP secretary. The interpreter of the inspector general was a woman, apparently a Russian because she spoke German with a heavy accent. Once a week, mostly on Tuesday, conferences between leading VP officials and Russians took place. The cadre personnel consisted of about 51 officers and three guard detachments of 54 men each. VP Kommissar Konzack (fnu) commanded the guard detachment. The state security service (SSD) maintained four offices in the headquarters building of the Air Division of the Peoples Police.
3. Almost daily, several civilians reported to the headquarters office to be issued uniforms and appointed to officers rank, such as VP Kommissar and VP Rat. The newly recruited personnel always spent the first night at the headquarters and were shipped to their duty stations the following day. (2)
Since 23 August 1952, the following arrival of new personnel was observed:

<u>Date of arrival</u>	<u>Male personnel</u>	<u>Female personnel</u>
23 August 1952	4	1
28 August 1952	13	3
29 August 1952	3	-
30 August 1952	5	2

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4. On 16 August 1952, the first division of the air peoples police was activated. The division was composed of three regiments which were to be stationed in Cottbus, Bautzen and Kamenz respectively. A supply battalion was to be stationed in Cottbus. It was mentioned that the division headquarters was located in Dresden-Klotzsche. (3)
- The division was commanded by one Hilpert (fnu) and his chief of staff Kurt Bitterlic, a former German Air Force pilot. (1)
5. Since 1 September 1952, theoretical classes were held by Soviet instructors at Cottbus airfield. Young Soviet officers candidates acted as interpreters at these lectures. So far no actual flying was practiced.

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 Comment.

- (1) The headquarters of the Air Peoples Police is located in the reconstructed administration building of Johannisthal airfield.
- (2) It is assumed that all new officers have to report to the headquarters in Johannisthal before they are assigned to the individual regiments.
- (3) The three regiments of the 1st Division VP Luft are numbered and stationed as follows:

1st Regiment in Bautzen

2nd Regiment in Kamenz

3rd Regiment in Cottbus.

It is believed that each regiment has one supply battalion.

- (4) It is assumed that at the time the choice for the location of the division headquarters was between Dresden-Klotzsche and Kamenz. Actually the headquarters of the division is located in the Panzerkaserne in Kamenz.

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